

Pappas Telecasting Companies' 'donation' of \$325,000 in airtime to Republican candidates in certain areas is yet another example of a powerful media group abusing its privileged access to the public airwaves. There needs to be strict oversight of these borrowers of the public airways. Licensing fees must be increased drastically so that we can have strict oversight. These entities seem to have no respect for our political system, laws, or constitution and thereby have no interest in serving the interest of the communities they operate in. They think of nothing of censoring real news because it may reflect on an advertiser. There must be an agency created to control these abusers. REMEMBER THESE ARE OUR AIRWAYS AND YOU MAY USE BUT NOT ABUSE. Localism is not served when a corporate headquarters decides to provide one side in local elections a louder voice than others. During election season, local audiences should be offered genuine debate -- not disingenuous offers to "purchase" an equal amount of response time.

Pappas uses the public airwaves free of charge and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. Pappas' actions are legally questionable and cast doubt on whether Pappas truly intends to serve the public interest. Their actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. Further, they show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than just a returned postcard. Thank you.